



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Park of
American Samoa

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National Park of American Samoa News Release

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National Park Begins Trail Repairs After Tropical Cyclone Wilma

Pago Pago, AS— National park crews began assessing park trails after destructive Tropical Cyclone Wilma traveled south. Initial reports indicate that the 3.5 mile / 5.6 km Mount Alava Trail sustained major damage including countless downed trees, mudslides, and eroded trail surfaces. So far about one-third of the trail has been cleared and work will continued the remainder of the week. The park is unsure of the affects caused by the massive cable from the old cable car system that snapped during the storm. Other national park trails, including areas on the Manu'a Islands, will be assessed for damage.

Tropical Cyclone Wilma struck Tutuila and Aunu'u Islands early Sunday morning with sustained winds of 65 mph, gusts up to 80 mph, and heavy rain. There was no damage to the national park visitor center and headquarters and no reported injuries.

The National Park of American Samoa was established in 1988 to preserve the coral reefs, tropical forest and archeological and cultural resources of American Samoa, to maintain the habitat of fruit bats, and to provide educational opportunities for visitors and residents. National park lands and waters are leased from villages and the American Samoa Government through a long-term agreement with the National Park Service.

For more information about visiting the National Park of American Samoa, call 699-3982, email NPSA_Info@nps.gov, visit its website at www.nps.gov/npsa.

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